Complaints of misbehaviour against Charge' D Affairs at Aden

1321. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaint against our Charge D'Affairs at Aden about his indecent and curt behaviour towards Indian nationals who were affected by civil war in South Yemen;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what action has been taken against him?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir. (b) and (c) Complaints relate to difficulties in contacting Embassy officials and arranging immediate relief. The fact was that during the height of the fighting due to breakdown of all communications our officials were trapped in the Chancery and their families in their respective houses without electricity and water for over a week. Even so the CDA contacted the Ministry and arrangements were immediately made to facilitate repatriation of Indian Nationals on British and Soviet ships as well as arranging to redirect Indian ships.

Even during this crisis period, Embassy officials did offer help and assistance, including food and shelter to a number of Indian nationals who were able to reach the Chancery or residence of the Embassy officials between 13th and 27th January, 1986.

Plot to blow up Air India Plane

1322. SHRI J. P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plot to blow up an Air India plane on flight from New York to Delhi was recently unovered and arrest some extremists in this connection were made by the Canadian police;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government propose to take up the question of their extradition with the Canadian Government for their trial in the country and if so, what steps have been taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. R. NARAYANAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) On May 30, 1986, Canadian authorities arrested five persons belonging to the "Babbar Khalsa" organisation, in connection with a plot to blow up an Air India aircraft flying out of New York on May 31, 1986. Charges against three of them were withdrawn by the prosecution on the grounds of insufficient evidence. the case against the other two is likely to come up for trial in September, 1986.

(c) All the accused in the case are Canadian citizens and are being prosecuted in Canada for violating their laws.

Construction of a 5-star hotel at Mud Island, Bombay

1323. SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:
SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have granted permission to construct a 5-star hotel at Mud Island, Bombay;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Ministry of Defence are not allowing any construction to come up at the above Island for security reasons; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) The Department of Tourism grants approval to hotel projects from the point of view of their suitability for tourists. In April, 1984 such approval was granted to a hotel project planned for the 5-star category at Mud Island, Bombay. The hotel has been completed and commissioned.